

**Introduced by Senator Alarcon**

March 26, 2003

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 19—Relative to World Languages and Cultures Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 19, as introduced, Alarcon. World Languages and Cultures Month.

This measure would declare the month of May 2003, World Languages and Cultures Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Proficiency in more than one language enhances
- 2 communication and strengthens positive interaction among people
- 3 around the globe; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Foreign language study enhances a pupil's
- 5 academic and literacy skills, leading to increased achievement on
- 6 verbal and nonverbal tests; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The State of California has recently published a
- 8 new framework for foreign language education delineating
- 9 programmatic guidelines for strengthening curriculum content
- 10 and program implementation; and
- 11 WHEREAS, During the course of this year, the State Board of
- 12 Education will be adopting instructional materials to support the
- 13 delivery of effective foreign language programs in California; and
- 14 WHEREAS, The new California Master Plan for Education
- 15 proposes that all pupils become proficient in non-English
- 16 languages; and



1 WHEREAS, The study of languages and cultures provides the  
2 opportunity to gain insight into the history, heritage, and  
3 perspectives of all California residents, as well as other  
4 communities around the world; and

5 WHEREAS, Today's international economy requires that  
6 people be able to interact effectively with individuals from  
7 different cultures; and

8 WHEREAS, Language competence is critical to the security  
9 needs of the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, The study of languages and cultures increases  
11 understanding and encourages respect for people of different  
12 backgrounds; and

13 WHEREAS, During the month of May, 2003, the California  
14 Language Teachers Association, the California Foreign Language  
15 Project, and other educational organizations throughout the  
16 Golden State will sponsor special activities to promote awareness  
17 of the importance of successful interaction in a multilingual and  
18 multicultural context, both at home and abroad; now, therefore, be  
19 it

20 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
21 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby declares the  
22 month of May, 2003, as World Languages and Cultures Month,  
23 and encourages all educational communities to celebrate  
24 languages and cultures with meaningful pupil activities and  
25 programs that demonstrate learning and understanding of the  
26 diversity of languages and cultures in California, and urges all  
27 citizens to become interested in and give full support to quality  
28 language and culture programs for all pupils in California schools;  
29 and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
31 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

